

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING VICTORIA GRAY ADAMS CIVIL RIGHTS LEGEND

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the life of an African-American civil rights legend, Mrs. Victoria Gray Adams. Victoria Gray Adams, civil rights activist, co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

Victoria Gray Adams and fellow civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer and Annie Devine were chosen as the national spokespersons for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and attended the 1964 Democratic Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Though their efforts to unseat the all-white Mississippi delegation were unsuccessful, these pioneering women and other members of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party's decision to challenge the Mississippi Segregationist political machine resulted in an integrated Mississippi delegation at the 1968 Democratic Convention and became a turning point in the civil rights movement. Mrs. Adams gave account of her civil rights involvement in the documentary "Standing on My Sisters Shoulders", in which she recalls the day in 1968 that she along with Fannie Lou Hamer and Annie Devine were the first African-American women to ever be invited as guest on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. She and others were honored at the 2004 Democratic National Convention for their trailblazing spirit and contribution to the civil rights movement.

Mrs. Adams would later become the first woman from Mississippi to run for the United States Senate. Mrs. Adams helped change Mississippi politics significantly by guaranteeing a seat at the table to discuss the African-American agenda. Courageous and tenacious, Mrs. Adams had an unyielding commitment to the civil rights movement, and for that reason today Mississippi has the highest number of African-American elected officials in the nation.

After attending Wilberforce University for a year, Mrs. Adams returned to Hattiesburg, Mississippi where she taught voter registration classes in the early 1960s and her fight for equality began. While Hattiesburg was 30 percent African-American, only 50 citizens were allowed to register to vote. In 1962, Mrs. Adams dedicated herself to the civil rights movement when she became field secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). She would later move to Thailand and labor on behalf of African-American United States servicemen for several years.

In her own words, Mrs. Adams said she learned in 1964 that there were two kinds of people in grass-roots politics, "those who are in the movement and those who have the movement in them." "The movement is in me", she said, and "and I know it always be."

Please join me today in honoring a true civil rights pioneer, Victoria Gray Adams.

HONORING LOUIS LAFAYETTE HUNTLEY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a great man whose life represents an American success story. Sadly, Louis Lafayette Huntley passed away, but he left behind a legacy of service for generations to follow. Mr. Huntley's life is a testament to commitment, faith and perseverance.

Louis Huntley grew up in a large family in Northeast Florida where he learned from his parents the hard work it takes to be successful in life. Following high school, he served in the U.S. Army for one year and after graduating from the University of Florida in 1950, he committed himself to over 40 years of service, first to the Florida National Guard and later to the Army Reserve until he retired as a Colonel in 1991.

In that same period, Mr. Huntley's distinguished himself in the Florida business community, going out on his own and starting his own business. By the time he sold it in 1990, Huntley's Jiffy Stores, Inc. had amassed 342 locations across Florida and Southeast Georgia. The success of his business endeavors was truly earned. This success translated into politics where he served as president of the Clay County Chamber of Commerce and as a Florida State Representative from 1964 to 1966.

Mr. Huntley's largest accomplishments, however, can be attributed to what he gave back to his family and community. Mr. Huntley was a great family man, with a loving wife, Mary, by his side for over a half-century. Together, they raised three children, Ward, Frank and Edith, who along with their nine grandchildren will carry on his legacy for generations to come. He loved to keep active with charities like the Boy Scouts of America and Rotary International, where he had a perfect attendance record for decades. He was also a man of deep Christian faith who employed his strong family values in his professional and personal life.

Mr. Huntley's life was successful not only because of his hard work and determination, but because he cared so much about those around him. Through innovation and leadership, he was able to create so much in his professional life, yet he still found time be a loving father and husband. He earned the respect and friendship from those that knew him; he will truly be missed.

I would like to send my condolences to his family and those mourning his loss. Although he will be greatly missed, his story will live on for others to follow.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NEVADA STATE COLLEGE AND DR. FRED MARYANSKI

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty and administrators of Nevada State College's School of Nursing in Henderson, Nevada, for their tremendous achievements with their accelerated nursing program. Their achievements are a reflection of their commitment to our community. Dr. Fred Maryanski, President of Nevada State College, has been instrumental in Nevada State College's early success as Nevada's newest institution of public higher education. His leadership, commitment, and vision serves as a testimonial to the success of the college's nursing program.

Nevada State College first welcomed students in August of 2002. It has been charged with the mission to meet the needs of students who are interested in bachelor degrees in our state's much-needed fields such as nursing and education, as well as in other disciplines in the arts and sciences. Since that time, Nevada State College has committed resources, professors, and vision to ensure that their mission statement becomes a reality. For faculty and students, that dream has been achieved. On Saturday, August 26, 2006, twenty-nine students graduated from the college's Accelerated Nursing Program, a success which reflects the college's commitment to providing their students with the necessary resources to achieve their dreams. I would like to commend the following students on their graduation from Nevada State College's Accelerated Nursing Program: Nancy Andruk, Joyce Arce, Royal Bradley, Tatiana Brandon, Katherine Busby, Diandra Castenada, Perla Cisco, Themis De Guzman, Tobyn Derby-Talbot, Andi Del Gatto, Catherine Dullano, Crisandra Eastmond, Raul Ellazar, Desiree Espinoza, Diane Graham, Kathryn Havey, Lynda Hubeny, Marianne Jackson, Brigitte Lacombe, Jeanette Long, Eudora Mordi, Eleanor Mox, Milagros Navarro, Bette-Ann Pierce, Sayma Salman, Dawn Scott, Nicole Thomas, Chantal Whittenberg, Bethany Williams, and Samantha Zomar.

As a result of Dr. Maryanski's tremendous leadership, his faculty's commitment to their goals, and his students' determination to succeed, Nevada State College has become an important component of Nevada's educational system. Dr. Maryanski assumed the presidency of the college in 2005, after a long and distinguished career at one of our country's leading public universities, the University of Connecticut. Since his arrival, President Maryanski has been working in partnership with the Nevada System of Higher Education to triple the number of nursing graduates by 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. Fred Maryanski, President of Nevada State College

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